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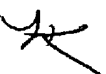
PLEASE DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE TO OUR WARRENTON OFFICE

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: May 3, 2004

TO: Examiner Minh Chau Thi Pham
Group Art Unit 1724
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/995,888
For: FILTER CARTRIDGE ASSEMBLIES AND METHODS FOR FILTERING FLUIDS
Our Ref.: 3192-001

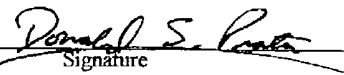
FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. 

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-703-872-9306

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 17

Items Attached: Amendment -- 16 pages

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Donald S. Prater
Name of Person Signing Certificate  Signature

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Donald S. Prater
Name (Print)

Donald S. Prater
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| In re Application of: THOMPSON |) | Examiner: Minh Chau Thi PHAM |
| |) | |
| Application No.: 09/995,888 |) | Group Art Unit: 1724 |
| |) | |
| Filed: November 28, 2001 |) | Confirmation No.: 1598 |
| |) | |
| Docket No.: 3192-001 |) | Customer No.: 33432 |

For: FILTER CARTRIDGE ASSEMBLIES AND METHODS FOR FILTERING FLUIDS

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 3, 2004

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated February 2, 2004, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before May 3, 2004 (May 2, 2004 was a Sunday).

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.